

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 SS-20 NSC-07 H-03

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R 052142Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 043921

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, GY

SUBJ: CIVAIR - GUYANA REQUEST FOR NEGOTIATIONS OF AIR

TRANSPORT AGREEMENT

REF: GEORGETOWN 1399

1. FYI. DEPARTMENT WISHES TO DEFLECT GOG REQUEST TO
NEGOTIATE AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WITH GUYANA FOR FOLLOWING
PRINCIPAL REASONS:

A. GUYANA DRAFT AGREEMENT (GEORGETOWN A-5) CONTAINS
NUMBER OF FEATURES WHICH ARE UNACCEPTABLE TO US, SUCH
AS LIMITATION TO ONE AIRLINE EACH SIDE AND PREDETERMINATION
OF CAPACITY.

B. IF NEGOTIATIONS WITH UK AND NETHERLANDS ARE ANY
BAROMETER, (GEORGETOWN 248 AND 314), TALKS WOULD BE
DESTINED FAIL.

C. GUYANA IS OF MARGINAL IMPORTANCE TO PAN AM ROUTE
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STRUCTURE.

D. DEPARTMENT AND CAB DO NOT WISH ENCOURAGE (BY CONCLUSION UNNECESSARY AGREEMENTS) PROLIFERATION OF FOREIGN ROUTES AND AIRLINES IN CARIBBEAN AREA, WHICH HAS BEEN BESET BY PROBLEMS OF AIRLINE VIABILITY FOR SOME TIME. END FYI.

2. ACCORDINGLY, UNLESS OBJECTION PERCEIVED, EMBASSY SHOULD RESPOND TO GUYANESE NOTE OF SEPTEMBER 18, 1973, ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

A. US AUTHORITIES HAVE NOTED THE DESIRE OF THE GOG TO CONCLUDE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH GOVERNMENTS OF AIRLINES OPERATING INTERNATIONAL SCHEDULED SERVICES INTO AND THROUGH GUYANA. THEY HAVE ALSO REVIEWED MOST CAREFULLY THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT PROPOSED BY GUYANA FOR THIS PURPOSE.

B. THE USG DOES NOT OPPOSE AN ATTEMPT TO CONCLUDE AN AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WITH THE GOG, BUT SUGGESTS THAT SATISFACTORY RELATIONS IN THIS REGARD ARE POSSIBLE WITHOUT SUCH AN AGREEMENT AT THIS TIME. DESPITE THE ABSENCE OF A DIRECT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ON THIS MATTER, THE GOG HAS CONTINUED TO ALLOW PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS TO OPERATE SERVICES TO GEORGETOWN, WHILE THE US AERONAUTICAL AUTHORITIES HAVE ISSUED A PERMIT TO GUYANA AIRWAYS CORPORATION TO OPERATE CARGO AND MAIL SERVICES VIA INTERMEDIATE POINTS TO TWO US POINTS, NAMELY, SAN JUAN AND MIAMI. THESE SERVICES, ALTHOUGH OPERATED AT MINIMAL FREQUENCY LEVELS, HAVE NOT LED TO PROBLEMS WHICH MIGHT NECESSITATE INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS FOR A BILATERAL AGREEMENT.

C. IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, THE USG SUGGESTS THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO DEFER CONSIDERATION OF AN AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT FOR THE TIME BEING. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, AGREEMENT DRAFT, AVIATION AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE043921
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MHSTYLES:TH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740366/aaaacjou.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: GEORGETOWN 1399
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 SEP 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <03 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - GUYANA REQUEST FOR NEGOTIATIONS OF AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT
TAGS: ETRN, GY, US
To: GEORGETOWN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005